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REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

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Claim Amendments

The Applicant has amended claims 1, 5-6, 8, 10-11, 15-20, and 22; claim 24 has been canceled without prejudice. Applicant respectfully submits no new matter has been added. Accordingly, claims 1-23 are pending in the application. Favorable reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 101

Claim 24 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101 because the claim is directed to computer program product. wherein the product itself is not tangibly embodied in a manner so as to be executable. The Applicant has canceled claim 24 rendering the rejection of this claim moot.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 102(b)

Claims 1-2, 10-11, 15-16 and 24 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by McVey et al (U.S. 5,479,477), hereinafter McVey. Claim 24 has been canceled. The Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection of the remaining claims.

The Applicant's invention discloses a method and system for accessing help information associated with a TDMA/GSM switch having an adjunct processor (AP). The AP is typically coupled with the switch and used to provide a data dump for operating the switch and access for switch maintenance. (Paragraph 2) The help information for the switch is included and associated with the data dump and provides, as the name indicates. help for using the data through an adjunct processor to the switch. The invention discloses the AP with a portion of the help information incorporated in the data normally provided for the operation of the TDMA/GSM switch. Well known in the prior art is a database "farm"; ALEXserv. The present invention provides access to a database that contains help information that is peculiar to the particular TDMA/GSM switch and the information could be retrieved from an ALEXserv database during a data dump to the AP. By including the help information in the data

dump, the need to switch between applications and connections to access both the switch and the help information specific to the switch is reduced or eliminated (Paragraphs 18-24)).

The McVey reference appears to disclose a method and apparatus for improving the process of assigning a console station control module to a communication resource. The communication resources typically comprise radio frequency carriers, time slots conveyed via radio frequency carriers, or telephone lines (Column 1, lines 22-24). A control module having specific abilities is assigned to a communications resource with a group of employed resource features. McVey's database stores information submitted via the input device (configuring a telephone with ring attributes) and the database comprises a topology view of the control stations (Co. 4, lines 16-33). Control stations are first associated with features they can support, i.e., data and telephone interconnections and a second table in the database associates communication resources with resources with resource features that each communication resource can employ. Essentially, the information stored in the database comprises configuration information applicable for associating control modules with communication resources, that are used to control one of the communication resources. (Column 3, lines 7-11).

In contrast to McVey, the Applicant's disclosure teaches a method for utilizing the AP to access the switch and the portion of a data dump (provided to control the switch) stored in an AP database that is the included help information. Storing the help information in the AP shortens the time between accessing the switch and consulting the help information. McVey does not teach retrieving specific help information loaded onto the AP from the data dump, nor does McVey teach including the help information in the data dump. This being the case, the Applicant respectfully requests the withdrawal of the rejection of claim 1 and dependent claim 2.

Claims 10 and 15 are analogous to claim 1 and contain similar limitations. The Applicant respectfully requests the withdrawal of the rejection of claims 10 and 15 and the respective dependent claims 11 and 16.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a)

Claims 3-9, 12-14 and 17-23 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over McVey as applied to claims 1-2, 10-11, 15-16 and 24 above. The Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection of these claims.

The Applicant agrees that the McVey system may utilize different databases, including ALEXserv. However, as noted above McVey doesn't teach including switch specific help information from a separate database in a data dump of switch control information that is loaded onto an associated AP (Paragraph 22 of the present invention). Also, McVey fails to teach the limitation of accessing the processor to access the switch <u>and</u> the help information, that is specific to the switch that was received during the data dump.

Claims 3-9, 12-14 and 17-23 depend from amended independent claims 1, 10 and 15 respectively, and recite further limitations in combination with the novel elements of the independent claims. The Applicant respectfully requests the withdrawal of the rejection of these claims.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing remarks, the Applicant believes all of the claims currently pending in the Application to be in a condition for allowance. The Applicant, therefore, respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw all rejections and issue a Notice of Allowance for all pending claims.

The Applicant requests a telephonic interview if the Examiner has any questions or requires any additional information that would further or expedite the prosecution of the Application.

Respectfully submitted,

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